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KENTUCKY COUNCIL ON
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION



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Adult education system recognized

Kentucky's adult education system has been recognized for excellence in several recent national publications. KYAE thanks all adult educators across the Commonwealth for their significant contributions that result in higher educational attainment levels for Kentuckians and in Kentucky being a national adult education leader.

In its recent report "[State Capacity for Leadership](#)," the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems stated, "Among the states visited by NCHEMS, only Kentucky is deliberately focused on how to reach and ensure higher levels of college and career readiness preparation for adults and high school dropouts."

A policy brief, "[Graduating to College: Three States Helping Adult Education Students Get a College Education](#)," recently released by the Working Poor Families Project noted:

- Kentucky has far more experience than most states in strengthening adult access to postsecondary education.
- Kentucky is ahead of almost all other states in building the common core standards into its adult education system.

Additionally, Kentucky was recognized in the [U.S. Department of Education's Adult College Completion Toolkit](#) as a top state strategy as a result of implementing college and career readiness standards in adult education. The toolkit is a collection of resources to connect adult educators to strategies, resources and technical assistance tools in three key areas – access, quality and completion.

KYAE's proven successes over the past few years include:

- From 2000 to 2010, the working-age population (18-64) without a high school diploma or GED® declined from 537,000 (21 percent) to 410,000 (15 percent) a 24 percent decline. (American Community Survey, 2006-10)
- In 2000, there were 44 counties with a working-age population without a high school diploma or GED® greater than 30 percent; 11 of those 44 were greater than 40 percent. In 2010, there are no counties above 40 percent and only nine counties above 30 percent.
- From 2005 to 2009, Kentucky led the nation with a 30 percent increase in adult education enrollment. Only 15 other states had enrollment increases during that timeframe.

Reecie Stagnolia, vice president, KYAE, has recently presented an overview of the system's successes to the Council on Postsecondary Education and the Kentucky General Assembly's Interim Joint Committee on Education. [Click here](#) and scroll to the bottom of the page to access the presentations.

KYAE presents nationally

Jacqueline Korengel, director, Strategic Initiatives, KYAE, recently presented at two national conferences. At the National College Transitions Network 2012 conference, *Effective Transitions in Adult Education*, in Providence, Rhode Island, she participated in two panels on Accelerating Opportunity. The session titles were “Promising Strategies from the Accelerating Opportunity States Part I and Part II.”

The National Training Institute 2012, *Transitions: Planning for Success*, in New Orleans was hosted by the National Adult Education Professional Development Consortium (NAEPDC) and National Council of State Directors of Adult Education (NCSDAE). Jacqueline presented with Lennox McLendon, NAEPDC executive director, on “Building Teacher Effectiveness: What do teachers need to know and be able to do to implement the Common Core Standards?” She discussed KYAE’s work with Standards-in-Action. At Lennox’s request, she also shared KYAE’s GED® 2002 vs. 2014 comparison chart created by KET for regional meetings.

Gayle Box, associate, Curriculum and Instructional Support, KYAE, recently presented a national webinar through NAASLN (National Association for Adults with Special Learning Needs). The topic was “Common Core Standards: The Path to College and Career Readiness.” Her presentation is available by [clicking here](#).

With the national education emphasis on college and career readiness, Gayle’s presentation details how KYAE has embraced the Common Core State Standards as the cornerstone of its plan to equip students to reach this goal. KYAE’s three-year professional development plan is based on the Standards-in-Action Innovations for Standards-Based Education, an initiative of the Office of Vocational and Adult Education. This webinar explains why KYAE has adopted the Common Core State Standards, gives an overview of the standards and presents KYAE’s plan for implementing these standards in all Kentucky adult education programs.

LINCS Kentucky connection

If you haven’t yet checked out the new [LINCS website](#), you’re missing lots of great resources. The new site features a redesigned look and enhanced functionality to provide a collection of evidence-based online resources for adult educators. A key feature is the LINCS Community, with 16 topic area groups. It allows for real-time discussions with peers, a professional learning community with specific topic area groups and additional professional development materials. These virtual communities are among the site’s most exciting changes, allowing for on-demand professional development and topic-specific networking. Educators now have an opportunity to come together and build on their collective experience, to share and obtain real-time answers to questions from their peers, and to receive the latest information, news and events.

Kentucky’s own [Meryl Becker-Prezocki](#) has been named the subject matter expert for the LINCS College and Career Standards group. Meryl is a former KYAE senior associate and Jefferson County adult education instructor with a background in professional development, standards-based education and learning disabilities. Please join Meryl as she facilitates the college and career standards discussion group.

KYAE Profile updated

The [KYAE Profile](#) has been updated with 2011-12 performance and demographic data. The KYAE Profile is an excellent quick reference tool for communicating with stakeholders and local partners about the importance and success of adult education.

Policy updates

KYAE has made several policy revisions in the areas of Core Services, Budgeting, College Tuition Reimbursement and PD Funds. For specifics, please see the online [KYAE Policy and Procedure Manual](#) and the accompanying [History of Policy Changes](#). The manual cover has links to the revised sections.

If you have questions, contact Janet Hoover, director, System Support, at Janet.Hoover@ky.gov.

Communications and outreach

Missy Brownson, currently assistant director of the Daviess County Adult Education Program, will join the KYAE staff on December 3 to fill a newly created communications and outreach position to support KYAE's goal of expanding outreach efforts to motivate adults to increase their educational attainment. This goal is part of the Council's Strategic Agenda, specifically Policy Objective 2 – to increase the number of college-ready GED® graduates.

Missy will help create, implement and oversee procedures, materials and messages to communicate and promote services and outcomes of the KYAE system. Her primary responsibility will be the preparation of messages and materials targeted for KYAE audiences both internal and external, including the development and execution of a long-range communications and outreach plan and materials. She will work with local adult education programs to provide technical assistance in the areas of communications and outreach.

Missy was chosen after interviewing five highly qualified candidates. Her unique background in both communications and adult education made her an excellent choice. As adult education assistant director in Daviess County for nearly five years, Missy has been responsible for marketing, advertising and public relations in addition to staff supervision, partnerships and pilots. She spent six years in the Jefferson County Adult Education Program coordinating marketing and public relations and teaching ESL. Missy has a bachelor's degree in English from Earlham College and is completing a master's degree in creative writing at Murray State University.

One of Missy's first projects will be communicating the close-out of the current GED® test series encouraging Kentuckians who have incomplete test scores to finish testing. A summary of the planned KYAE campaign follows.

GED® close-out campaign

With the 2002 GED® test series ending December 2013 and 16,000 Kentuckians with non-passing or incomplete test scores, KYAE will conduct a communications campaign to encourage adults to finish their GED® test before testing ends on December 18, 2013. The following summarizes KYAE's plans for next year; however, there will be additions and modifications as we move toward the end of next year.

News releases

- A series of news releases will be sent statewide from the Council on Postsecondary Education's communications office and shared with adult education providers and test centers for local distribution.
- All news releases will include the end date for 2013 testing – December 18.

Internet

- KYAE will display "Your Future is Calling" message in the "What's New" section of KYAE website. "Your Future is Calling" is the theme of the GED Testing Service® campaign.
- KYAE will work with partner agencies to also display the message.
- We will make use of social media to spread message.

Broadcast media

- KYAE will develop a KBA radio spot with a targeted message to air statewide in 2013.

Local efforts

All adult education programs can join the campaign by promoting the message locally. Below are some ideas; expect more to follow.

- Access GEDTS marketing materials through [Brand Central](#). Posters are available for hanging in high-traffic areas in adult education centers and community sites. Other materials are also available.

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- Display “Your Future is Calling” message on your websites. Web graphics are available at Brand Central.
- To help reach the 16,000 Kentuckians who have non-passing or incomplete GED® test scores since 2002, adult educators can request a list by county of residence. This list is available through the GED® examiner at the local testing center or by e-mailing ged@ky.gov. If requested, the list can highlight those students who only need to pass the math portion of the test.

Discount on curricula

KYAE programs have an opportunity to purchase student codes for Pearson *MyFoundationsLab* online curricula at the discounted price of \$20 per code to be used until June 30, 2013.

Pearson’s *MyFoundationsLab* modules have been used to successfully supplement academic instruction in reading, writing and mathematics, focusing on transitioning students to college and careers. Courses currently available for KYAE students include modules aligned to the TABE and/or the Compass. *MyFoundationsLab* modules cover all levels of content, including college and career readiness. Pearson student codes are one-user codes; codes may not be reassigned. KYAE encourages programs to consider this as a good use of Recruitment, Retention, Results funding.

For more information on this opportunity, including the procedures for purchasing, enrollment processes and online training, contact Gayle Box at gayle.box@ky.gov.

Regional meeting follow-up

During August 2012 regional meetings, programs shared best practices, which have been summarized and posted on KYAE’s website. Please [click here](#) to find best practices, PowerPoint presentations and other resources associated with the regional meetings.

National Literacy Directory

The [National Literacy Directory](#), launched in 2010 with funding from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, is designed to help individuals find local literacy and education programs and GED® testing centers in their areas. The National Literacy Directory contains over 10,000 educational agencies located across the United States.

If your program’s contact information is currently in the directory, now is the time to check it for accuracy and make any necessary changes. If you have not entered your program information, KYAE encourages you to consider doing so.